



**THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1000

6 DEC 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR

SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (ACQUISITION AND TECHNOLOGY)  
UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER)  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMMAND, CONTROL,  
COMMUNICATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE)  
GENERAL COUNSEL  
INSPECTOR GENERAL  
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION  
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES

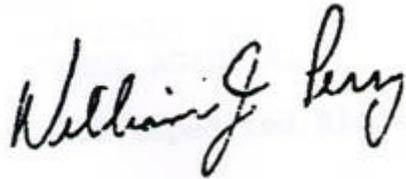
SUBJECT: Common Systems/ISO-9000/Expedited Block Changes

My June 29, 1994, memorandum on Specifications and Standards directed the use of performance specifications to the maximum extent practicable, and the development of a streamlined procurement process to modify existing contracts to encourage contractors to propose non-government specifications and industry-wide practices that meet the intent of military specifications and standards which impose government-unique management and manufacturing requirements. Although much progress is being made in applying these principles on new contracts, this progress has itself shown that government-unique requirements on existing contracts prevent us from realizing the full benefits of these changes by requiring, in a single facility, multiple management and manufacturing systems designed to accomplish the same purpose. Because it is generally not efficient to operate multiple, government-unique management and manufacturing systems within a given facility, there is an urgent need to shift to facility-wide common systems on existing contracts as well.

In order to meet our military, economic and policy objectives in the future, and to expedite the transition to this new way of doing business, the direction given in The Secretary's June 29, 1994, memorandum is hereby revised. In addition to the direction given there for government-unique specifications and standards, I now direct that block changes to the management and manufacturing requirements of existing contracts be made on a facility-wide basis, to unify management and manufacturing requirements within a facility, wherever such changes are technically acceptable to the government. The single point of contact for this effort will be the Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO) assigned to a facility.

The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology shall issue additional guidance necessary to facilitate the Department's streamlined review of contractor's proposals to replace government-unique management and manufacturing requirements in existing contracts with uniform requirements within the contractor's facilities.

We cannot afford to allow "business as usual" to delay this initiative. I therefore request that you and your leadership take an active role in expediting the transition of existing contracts and reprocurements to common systems.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William J. Perry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial 'W'.